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DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 04 March 2010 has been entered.

Claim Information

- 2. Claims 126, 133, 138, 155-162, 167, 169-171, & 173-175 are cancelled as requested by Applicant.
- 3. Claim 176 has been added.
- 4. **Claims 127-132** have been amended to include further limiting claim language, both referenced previously and newly added, and as discussed in the telephonic interview conducted 06 October 2009.

Allowable Subject Matter

- 5. **Claim 176** is allowed as added.
- 6. Claims 125, 140-147, & 153-154 are allowed as presented following the interview and upon review of the arguments which have been found to be persuasive.
- 7. Claims 127-132 are allowed as amended, dependent on claim 176.
- 8. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

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- a. As related to amended independent claim 176 and therefore dependent claims 127-132 which inherently contain the limitations of independent claim 176, an additional search was conducted based on the amendments proposed during the interview and presented in the current correspondence and the prior art of record fails to teach or fairly suggest a printer comprising all of the structural limitations as claimed, particularly but not limited a printer including a print head for dispersing fluid onto a substrate; a radiation source having a plurality of rows of radiation emitting elements, each row having a major axis that is parallel to adjacent rows, and the elements in adjacent rows being offset from each other; the substrate moving relative to the radiation source; the radiation source being fixed such that the curing direction is perpendicular to the major axes of the rows; the offset radiation emitting elements reduce variations in the intensity of radiation received by the substrate.
- b. As related to amended independent claim 140 and therefore dependent claims 125, 141-147, & 153-154 which inherently contain the limitations of independent claim 140, an additional search was conducted based on the persuasive arguments and depiction thereof during the interview and the prior art of record fails to teach or fairly suggest a printer comprising all of the structural limitations as claimed, particularly but not limited a printer having radiation—emitting elements arranged in a plurality of rows such that an element of the radiation-emitting elements is not aligned in the curing direction with any adjacent elements of the radiation-emitting elements.

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9. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John P. Zimmermann whose telephone number is (571)270-3049. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday, 7:00am - 5:00pm.

Conclusion

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Siegel (US 7,498,065 B2) teaches a printing system with a radiation curing source with adjacent elements offset from each other in the curing direction.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew Luu can be reached on 571-272-7663. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/MATTHEW LUU/ Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2861